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**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Re application of

Docket No: Q61223

Hideya TAKEO

Appln. No.: 09/778,908

Group Art Unit: 2624

Confirmation No.: 5842

Examiner: Anh Hong DO

Filed: February 8, 2001

For: IMAGE CODING-DECODING METHOD, IMAGE CODING-DECODING SYSTEM,  
IMAGE CODER, IMAGE DECODER, AND STORAGE MEDIUM

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

**ATTN: MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**REMARKS**

Applicant offers the following comments in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance set forth on page 2 of the Notice of Allowability dated June 9, 2006. The Reasons for Allowance refers to an effect of the invention as described in the specification but not explicitly indicated in the claims.

Patent Office personnel are requested to note that the present submission does not adversely affect the patent term adjustment accrued by the Applicant to date. As emphasized in the "Clarification of 37 C.F.R. §1.704(c)(10) – Reduction of Patent Term Adjustment for Certain Types of Papers Filed After a Notice of Allowance Has Been Mailed," 1247OG111 (6/26/01), "a response to the examiner's reasons for allowance" is an example of a paper that does "not cause

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT  
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substantial interference and delay in the patent issue process” and is “not considered a ‘failure to engage in reasonable efforts’ to conclude processing or examination of the application.”

Therefore, the Applicant remains entitled to the full patent term adjustment set forth on page 3 of the Notice of Allowance dated June 9, 2006.

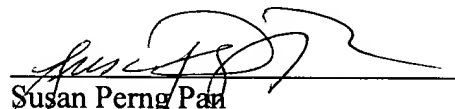
Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

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